S.No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Remarks
16.	CARE TAKER	2	
17.	L. SUPDT.	1	
18.	WELFARE ASSTT.	2	
19.	LIAISON COORD. ASSTT.	1	
20.	GEST. OPERATOR	2	
21.	ELECT. CUM-PLUMBER	3	
22.	SENIOR DRIVER	2	
23.	DRIVER	4	
24.	PANTRY ATTENDANT	4	
25.	DESPATCH RIDER	2	
26.	RECORD KEEPER	2	
27.	PEON ATTENDENT	18	
28.	DAK SORTER	2	
29.	SAFAI WALA	4	
30.	CHOWKIDAR	4	
		102	
	TOTAL	279	

Poor response from private sector in Port Activities

3343. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY:
SHRI C.P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the Government's ambitious plan to involve the private sector in port development of the country has proved to be a non-starter, as reported in the H.T dated 7th April, 2000 when India is already moving too slowly with its limited ports;

(b) if so, the main reasons for not coming forward by Private sector even though projects worth $ 7 billion were offered by Government on a "build-operate-transfer basis"; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to make private investment in ports more attractive with perspective/prospective/strategic planning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. In all 24 projects aggregating to 92.20 million tonnes of port capacity at an investment of

approximately Rs. 8,000 crores are planned to be taken up through private investment during the 9th Five Year Plan. So far, 13 projects of 52.80 million tonnes capacity with investment of Rs. 3926 crores have been approved. Eighth projects of 34.4 million tonnes capacity involving investment of Rs. 3500 crores are under bidding process. Three projects aggregating to 5 million tonnes capacity and investment of Rs. 450.00 crores have been identified for which bids are to be invited. The Ministry has finalised Model Documents for private sector participation which *inter-alia* aim at ensuring uniformity, minimising the time taken in finalising tender documents etc.

New National Highways in Ninth Five Year Plan

†3344. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of National Highways in terms of kilometers built during the Eighth Five Year Plan as against its target and the total amount spent thereon;

(b) the total length of National Highways in terms of kilometers required to be built immediately State- wise, during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(c) the details of action plan being prepared for this purpose and estimated cost required in this regard; and

(d) the names of States where such National Highways are located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) A statement indicating target/ achievements during the 8th Five Year Plan in respect of National Highways on all India basis is enclosed as Statement-I (*See* below). An amount of Rs. 188287.14 lakhs was allocated for the 8th Plan.

(b) A statement indicating targets to be achieved during 9th Plan on all India basis, to be undertaken by Department of Road Transport & Highways and NHAI are enclosed as Statement-II and III (*See* below).

(c) The above programme is being taken up on yearly basis and Planning Commission has made availability of funds to the tune of Rs. 8,662.02 crores (at 1996 price level) for 9th Plan. In addition funds are also being made available to this Ministry for cess account for National Highway Development Project undertaken by NHAI.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.